

E1-2577



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

CLAY COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1615 30TH AVE S
MOORHEAD, MN 56560

(218) 233-7773
(218) 233-1436 FAX

October 20, 2006

Sidney Strickland and Associates, PLLC
3050 K St. NW, Suite 101
Washington, DC 20007-5108

Attn: Liz Waite

RE: Wetland Impact from
BNSF Railway Abandonment

Dear Ms. Waite:

I am writing this letter in regards to our telephone conversation on September 29, 2006 concerning the potential impacts to wetlands from a Railway Abandonment by BNSF Railway Company. On March 17, 2006, the Clay County FSA Office received an Environmental Assessment from the proposed abandonment. On April 12, 2006, the Clay County FSA Committee, along with myself and Sharon Lean, Clay County District Conservationist for the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) met to discuss the potential impacts on wetlands that would result from this proposed abandonment. After review of the area involved and on the recommendation by Ms. Lean, the Clay County FSA Committee made the determination that the proposed abandonment will not impact agricultural lands and that a Federal Farmland Policy Protection Act site assessment was not required.

I hope this answers the questions that you had proposed to me. If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me at (218) 233-7773 Ext. 2.

Sincerely,

Wanda Garry
County Executive Director
Clay County FSA